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Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

No. 94



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CONTENTS	PAGE
WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS	
World Radio Conference Opens in Geneva (XINHUA, 27 Sep 79)	1
Soviets Helping To Build Hanoi Transmitter Station (Hanoi Domestic Service, 1 Sep 79)	2
Ghanaian Press Discusses Need for African News Agency (Kojo Koomson; Accra Domestic Service, 18 Sep 79)	3
Briefs	
'TANJUG' on WARC Conference	5
News Agencies Pool Conference	5
WARC Problems	6
Czechoslovakia, Colombia Radio Cooperation	6
Soviet Agreement on Afghan Satellite Station	6
Hungarian-Norwegian Cooperation	6
Egyptian Telephone System Agreement	6
Argentine Chairman of WRC	7
Libyan Cable-Satellite Systems	7
'PNA-EFE' Information Exchange	7
Kenya-Poland Broadcasting Accord	8
Delegation Appointed	8
Santiago Television Transmitter	8
Ethiopia-Poland Radio-TV Cooperation	9
ASIA	
INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS	
Briefs	
'KYODO' Circuit Tokyo-Beijing	10

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
AUSTRALIA	
Telecom Australia Turning to Solar Power (Melbourne Overseas Service, 24 Sep 79)	11
Briefs	
Telecom-Australia Expansion	13
JAPAN	
Laser-Glass Disk Data Recorder Reproduced Developed (KYODO, 12 Sep 79)	14
Optical Communication System Tested by Japanese Company (KYODO, 6 Sep 79)	15
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA	
Broadcasting, Television Develops in Zhejiang Province (Hangzhou Zhejiang Provincial Service, 21 Sep 79)	16
THAILAND	
Briefs	
Radio Interference in Northeast	17
EAST EUROPE	
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	
Serbian SAWP Council Discusses Bulgarian-Language Broadcasting (TANJUG, 26 Sep 79)	18
HUNGARY	
Hungarian Radio Plans Expansion of Minority-Language Programs (MTI, 28 Sep 79)	20
Briefs	
Television Relay Station	21
POLAND	
Briefs	
Przemysl TV Improved	22

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Briefs

Belgrade Meeting Official Comments	23
Telecom Delegation to Damascus	23
Saudi-Oman Radio-TV Cooperation	23
Arab Satellite Telecommunications	24

MOROCCO

Moroccan Minister of Information Visits 'MAP' Headquarters (MAP, 10 Sep 79)	25
--	----

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Rehabilitation of Uganda's Telecommunications Underway (Kampala Domestic Service, 28 Sep 79)	26
---	----

ETHIOPIA

Briefs

Radio Terminal in Ethiopia	27
----------------------------	----

KENYA

Briefs

Kenya Geneva Radio Conference Delegate	28
--	----

NIGERIA

Briefs

Communications Ministry Reorganization	29
--	----

USSR

Briefs

Television Tower Started	30
Armenian TV Relay Construction	30
Kurgan Oblast TV	30
Dagestan TV Tower Construction	30

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

WEST EUROPE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Haggle Over Frequencies Expected at Geneva WARC Round (Karl-Otto Saur; SUEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, 24 Sep 79) ...	31
Briefs 'DPA' Announces Modernized Services	33

WORLD RADIO CONFERENCE OPENS IN GENEVA

Beijing XINHUA in English 2152 GMT 27 Sep 79 OW

[Text] Geneva, September 27 (XINHUA)--The World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC), organized by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), opened here today with the participation of more than 1,739 government representatives of experts from some 150 countries and many international organizations. A Chinese delegation led by vice-minister of Posts and Telecommunications Li Linchuan attended the conference.

The purpose of this conference is to revise the existing international radio regulations governing world radio telecommunications. The regulations are modified every 20 years, with the last general revision made at the 1959 WARC. Therefore, the regulations to be revised by the present conference are expected to remain in force until the year 2000 and perhaps even longer.

In the last two decades or more, the two superpowers have tried by hook or by crook to occupy important and advantageous frequencies and locations of geostationary satellite tracks by relying on their technological superiority. The developing countries have, therefore, voiced strong demands for reallocation of frequencies and satellite track locations on the basis of equality.

The revision of international radio regulations is an extremely complex and difficult matter since it has direct bearing upon the economic development and national security of various countries. According to the statistics made by ITU, some 10,000 proposals for revisions or modifications of the radio regulations have been submitted to the conference by various countries.

Today's opening meeting elected Argentina as chairman of the conference and China and five other states as vice-chairmen.

The conference is scheduled to last 10 weeks.

CSO: 5500

SOVIETS HELPING TO BUILD HANOI TRANSMITTER STATION

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 1 Sep 79 BK

[Text] Today, 1 September, a ceremony was held in Hanoi to turn over the first stage of a transmitter station built with Soviet assistance. Attending the ceremony on the Vietnamese side were Vu Tuan, member of the party Central Committee and minister of the premier's office; Hoang Tung, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the party Central Committee Propaganda and Training Department; Tran Lam, alternate member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Vietnam Radio and Television Commission; (Tran Anh Huan), vice minister of power and coal; Le Quy, vice chairman of the Vietnam Radio and Television Commission and editor in chief of the Voice of Vietnam; and a representative of the Ministry of Building. On the Soviet side were the secretary in charge of economic affairs at the Soviet Embassy in Vietnam and Soviet experts engaged in building the transmitter station.

The first stage of the turnover included two shortwave transmitters and one mediumwave; and two diesel engines. This is a large construction project with advanced, homogeneous and modern techniques. In building the transmitter station together with the Soviet experts, engineers and workers of the equipment installation corporation subordinate to the Ministry of Building and of the Ministry of Power and Coal and the Vietnam Radio and Television Commission have safely moved tens of thousands of tons of heavy and large equipment and materials to the construction site. They have also economized on the use of these materials and satisfactorily taken good care of all valuable equipment without any loss. As part of the emulation drive to mark national day, 2 September, and thanks to their creativity and the wholehearted assistance of the Soviet experts, the workers and engineers of the equipment installation corporation of the Ministry of Building were able to install two 259-meter steel antenna towers safely and in accordance with specifications. Their achievement was praised highly by the Soviet experts because these were the tallest antenna towers that Vietnamese engineers and workers have succeeded in installing in the country.

Vietnamese engineers and workers and Soviet experts are continuing to overcome numerous difficulties and to exert joint efforts in building and completing all projects of the transmitter station so that it can be put into operation at an early date.

CSO: 5500

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

GHANAIAN PRESS DISCUSSES NEED FOR AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY

Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Sep 79 AB

[Commentary by (Kojo Koomson)]

[Text] For the third time in a fortnight, a call has been made for the establishment of a continental news agency for Africa or a press school for the nonaligned countries.

The first call was made by the chairman of the AFRC [Armed Forces Revolutionary Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings when he addressed the nonaligned summit in Havana. The chairman observed that foreign media distort news coming from developing countries in a bid to control the destinies of the Third World countries. What is more, the foreign media provide a little or no information about the actual situation in developing countries.

Then came another call in the editorial column of an Accra daily which published the story of a television broadcast by a foreign country of an interview granted by the chairman of the AFRC against an alleged distasteful and perhaps disgusting background.

The third call from Captain Boakye Djan, spokesman and a member of the AFRC, was a reiteration of the earlier call by Flight Lieutenant Rawlings. He was opening an international seminar in Accra.

One cannot help but share the anxiety of the present government in its concern for the standard of reporting about Third World countries by the international press and the media agencies. These international media have displayed a continued lack of objectivity, tossing out terms about Africa without fully comprehending our situational context. Their coverage about Third World countries inspires doubt about their intentions as regards the efforts of these countries to emancipate from socio-economic backwardness.

The key to understanding and appreciating the degree to which the international press and media agencies have distorted news and thus succeeded in misinforming their readership lies in the operations of international news agencies, notably: AFP, Reuter, Associated Press, United Press International and TASS. The business philosophy of a lot of these agencies is strictly profit motive thus, news is treated strictly as saleable commodity and not as a social service. Correspondent reports and editors' selection of news are also influenced by the taste of the readership at home.

The stereotype about Africa and the negative coverage generally about the Third World are designed to satisfy clientele prejudices and narrow-mindedness. Thus, the only news-worthy events about Africa are coups, earthquakes or any such natural disaster. It must be pointed out that the major association against the modus operandi of the international news agencies is not so much the malicious intention as narrow-minded and ideological bias. It is this which predisposes them to political prejudices which in turn leads to the tendency to slant news' angles.

The implications of the continued dependence by developing countries on the foreign news agency can and indeed do shape Third World foreign policy. Since information about the outside world is seen through the eyes of these agencies. Moreover, they control the tools of gatekeeping, and therefore, decide the type of news to be piped out. In this way they invariably shape world opinion to the disadvantage of developing countries.

It is precisely to break the dominance by and the dependence on international news agencies that is the concept of the Federation of Pan-African News Agencies, PAN-AP for short, was mooted in Algiers in December 1963 by some African countries including Ghana. It is a relief to note that a significant progress is being made in this direction. However, there is a lot to be done especially in the area of breaking technical barriers and ironing out political and ideological differences among states. The establishment of PAN-AP is certainly Africa's answer to the new policy of media imperialism being practised by the developed countries. Designed not to be a substitute for but a completing agency in the field of news gathering, Ghana will have the unique advantage for the grasp for details in matters pertaining to Africa. What is more, Ghana could be the nucleus of the nonaligned press school which the chairman of the AFRIC has called for.

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

'TANJUG' ON WARC CONFERENCE--Geneva, September 29 (TANJUG)--After a 3-day delay, a world conference on radio wave-length administration opened in Geneva today. Over 1,800 delegates from [words indistinct] participated in this biggest meeting on radio broadcasting in the past 20 years. The main task of the conference is the revision of international regulations on radio broadcasting, regulations which have the power of an international agreement. The conference is an important international meeting which comes after the sixth nonaligned summit in Havana. The unity of the non-aligned and their consistency in the implementation of Havana decisions was manifested during the three-day efforts to elect the conference chairman. Today the need logically presents itself for the broadest international consultations and accords on a more equitable and rational use of radio wave lengths and the justified meeting of legitimate needs of the non-aligned and developing countries which demand equal participation in decision-making on and the use of radio wave lengths. In view of the large number of proposals, it is expected that the conference can last until the end of the year, although it was scheduled to last 10 weeks. The international regulations to be revised by the (?conference are to remain) in force until the year 2000 and perhaps even longer. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG in English 2100 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD]

NEWS AGENCIES POOL CONFERENCE--Belgrade--The second conference of the non-aligned countries' news agencies' pool is to be held from 22 to 24 November in Belgrade. This conference will be directly preceded by the fourth regular meeting of the pool's coordination committee on 19 and 20 November also in Belgrade. It is envisaged that the work of the pool conference will take place in a plenum, with a general debate, and also in commissions for professional, technical and educational questions. The exact agenda for the conference will be determined later by the coordination committee, but it is already known that the conference will discuss, among other things, the need to change its statute, and it will also be called upon to elect members of the new coordination committee for the next 3-year period. [Excerpts] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1158 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD]

WARC PROBLEMS--We radio workers have been following news about the world radio conference with particular interest. It is essentially a question of life for us. With the participation of delegations from the whole world, the debates of the World Administrative Radio Conference [WARC] are taking place in Geneva. The conference's aim is to redistribute radio frequencies among individual countries. The new distribution will be binding until the end of this century. One cannot say that the discussion has brought speedy decisions. After 4 days of haggling the chairman of the conference was elected. He is Argentine Minister of Telecommunications Roberto Severin. Developing countries maintain that at the previous conference, which was held in 1959, the governments of highly industrialized countries grabbed for themselves 95 percent of the frequency range. Delegates from Colombia and six other equatorial states demand the recognition of their right to outer space over their countries. They maintain that this space, where satellites are located in stationary orbits, is their natural resource. However, the Colombian proposal has no chance of majority support. [Text] [Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0830 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD]

CZECHOSLOVAKIA, COLOMBIA RADIO COOPERATION--A cooperation agreement between the Czechoslovak Radio and the Colombia National Radio was signed yesterday by Dr K. Simon, candidate of sciences, deputy central director of the Czechoslovak Radio and by Gustavo Acuna Obando, program director of the Colombia National Radio. [Text] [Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 28 Aug 79 p 2 AU]

SOVIET AGREEMENT ON AFGHAN SATELLITE STATION--Afghanistan and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement for the setting up of a satellite station with Soviet assistance for broadcasting radio and television programs. Under the agreement signed yesterday in Kabul, a mobile satellite station is to be set up under the first phase. The permanent station will be established by 1980-81 under the second phase. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 12 Sep 79 BK]

HUNGARIAN-NORWEGIAN COOPERATION--At the invitation of the director general of MTI, Per Monsen, director general of the Norwegian News Agency NTB, visited Budapest from 4 to 6 September. He studied the work of the Hungarian news services and the activity of MTI. A Hungarian-Norwegian cooperation agreement concerning news and pictures was concluded during the visit. The Norwegian guest was received by Secretary of State Peter Varkonyi, chairman of the Information Bureau of the Council of Ministers. [Text] [Budapest MAGYAR KIRLAP in Hungarian 7 Sep 79 p 5 AU]

EGYPTIAN TELEPHONE SYSTEM AGREEMENT--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil at noon today attended a ceremony held at the prime minister's office for the signing of the agreement on the development of telephone communications in Egypt between the Government of Egypt and a European consortium which includes the Siemens and Thompson companies of France, Germany and Austria. The agreement was signed on the Egyptian side by Minister of Transport and Communications Eng 'Ali Fahmi ad-Daghistani and on the European side by Mr (Philick), the representative of the consortium. The development program will be completed over a period of 5 years, from 1980 to 1984. It will increase the number of telephone lines in Egypt to about 500,000, or three times the present number. The program also

includes the establishment of automatic dialing between Egypt and other countries, as well as telex lines. The program will cost about \$1.8 billion. Dr Mustafa Khalil delivered a speech after the signing of the agreement in which he said that this program will raise the standard of telephone service in Egypt, and at the same time, is indicative of the soundness of the Egyptian economy. The prime minister said that this agreement is considered a good step in the continuing cooperation between Egypt and the industrialized states. [Excerpts] [Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Sep 79 NC]

ARGENTINE CHAIRMAN OF WRC--Geneva, Sept 27, RUETER--A conference called to divide the world's crowded radio frequencies for the next 20 years opened here today, 3 days behind schedule, after delegates finally settled a dispute about who should be chairman. Western and nonaligned nations had rejected each other's candidates but agreed this afternoon on Argentinian chief delegate Roberto Severini as a compromise choice. For the next 10 weeks, he will preside over the world administrative radio conference, attended by more than 1,000 delegates from 148 countries. Conference decisions will affect investments worth millions of dollars and could do much to determine whose broadcasts are most clearly heard around the world. Mr Severini was proposed by nonaligned countries, who are seeking more radio frequencies for poorer nations, conference sources said. Western countries, led by the United States, accepted him on the understanding that Switzerland's Henry Kieffer would be vice chairman, with an important coordinating role, the sources said. The conference should have opened on Monday. [Text] [London REUTER in English 1809 GMT 27 Sep 79 WA]

LIBYAN CABLE-SATELLITE SYSTEMS--Tripoli--Last night, the secretary of the general people's committee for communications and maritime transport opened the sea cable system between Marseilles and Tripoli, and Benghazi and Tripoli, and the ground satellite station. The opening ceremony was also attended by the ambassadors of Japan and France and by the directors of French Cable and Wireless and the Japanese Nippon Electricity firm. The sea cable system between Tripoli and Benghazi will provide 900 multichannels for telephone and cable communications between the two towns in addition to the simultaneous relay, both ways, of radio and colored television programs side by side the microwave network all along the Libyan coast. The sea cable between Tripoli and Marseilles, will provide telephone and cable communications between the Jamahiriya and France and from there to the rest of the world. The ground satellite will provide telephone and cable communications and television programs between the Jamahiriya and the states subscribing in the satellite communications. [Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Sep 79 LD]

'PNA-EFE' INFORMATION EXCHANGE--[Words indistinct] agreement with the Spanish News Agency EFE. The move is aimed at broadening PNA's international news [words indistinct]. It was the 15th such agreement concluded by PNA with different national news agencies in Asia, Latin America and Europe. The agreement calls for the exchange of news material, [words indistinct] and news pictures between PNA and EFE and operative arrangements for their correspondents. Other news agreements concluded by PNA were with BERNAMA

of Malaysia, ANTARA of Indonesia, Thai News Agency, XINHUA of China, KYODO of Japan, Orient Press and HAPTONG of South Korea, Associated Press of Pakistan, Press Trust of India and Samachar News Agency of India, AGERPRES of Romania, ADN of the German Democratic Republic, PRENSA LATINA of Cuba and (DES MOS) Economic News Agency of Sri Lanka. [Text] [Manila PNA in English 0830 GMT 24 Sep 79 OW]

KENYA-POLAND BROADCASTING ACCORD--Kenya's Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the Polish Committee for Radio and Television have signed a 5-year agreement, mainly aimed at cooperation and the exchange of radio and television programs, to boost the organization of the two countries. The agreement, which is effective from today, was signed in Nairobi between the minister for information and broadcasting, Mr Daniel Mutinda, and the chairman of the Polish Radio and Television, Mr (Zakonski). According to the agreement, signed in Mr Mutinda's office, the two countries will provide technical assistance, journalists, reporters and film teams. Both parties will also exchange trainees in order to produce programs and share experience in the field of radio and television production. The 5-year contract also envisages areas of cooperation aimed at exchanging chronicle, culture, art and film materials on the 16-mm tape, all on a nonfinancial basis. [Excerpt] [Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Sep 79 LD/EA]

DELEGATION APPOINTED--Guatemala will be represented at the World Radio Broadcasting Administrative Conference which will be held from 24 September to 7 December 1979, in Geneva, Switzerland. The Foreign Relations Ministry yesterday reported that the president of the republic appointed a delegation to represent the Guatemalan Government at the conference. The members of the delegation are: Carlos Enrique de la Cerda Acevedo, first deputy minister of communications and public works, who heads the delegation; Alejandro Maldonado Aguirre, Guatemalan Ambassador and permanent representative to the UN office in Europe; Col Ruben Gonzalo Alvarez, manager of Guatemalan Telecommunications Enterprise (GUATEL); Col Carlos Anibal Mendez Cabrera, National Defense Ministry official; GUATEL officials Pario Paiz Chacon, Rafael Lemus, Jorge Oliverio Vasquez; Jorge Alvarez Madrid, Communications and Public Works Ministry official and Capt Julio Cesar Recinoz Barro, National Defense Ministry official. [Text] [Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 25 Sep 79 p 5 PA]

SANTIAGO TELEVISION TRANSMITTER--A television signal retransmitting station taking black-and-white and color images to the population on the southwestern coast will be built in Santiago de Cuba Province, Guama Municipality, (Mariano Romano), director of the communications enterprise in Santiago de Cuba, reported that the civil construction will start soon in the place known as "Punta Tababal" located some 4 km from the village of Chivirico. About 1 year ago experimental equipment was placed in this area to observe the behavior of television signals and the satisfactory results led to set up the aforementioned installation. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Oct 79 FL]

ETHIOPIA-POLAND RADIC-TV COOPERATION--Ethiopia and Poland today signed an agreement on cooperation between their radio and television organizations. The accord was signed by Information and National Guidance Minister Maj Yilma Girma and the visiting chairman of the Polish Radio and TV Committee, Maciej Szczepanski, who is also a member of the PZPR Central Committee. Under the agreement, Poland will supply Ethiopia with modern radio and television equipment and will help with technical training. The two countries will exchange radio and television programs of social, economic, cultural, scientific and political interest. [Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD/EA]

CSO: 5500

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

'KYODO' CIRCUIT TOKYO-BEIJING--Tokyo, 1 Oct KYODO--The KYODO News Service opened a telephone circuit between its Tokyo headquarters and its Beijing bureau Monday that will make it possible to send or receive news articles by high-speed facsimile. The circuit can also transmit photographs and voice communications. The new service will greatly speed up news transmission. Until now, KYODO has relied on a single telex circuit between its Beijing bureau and its Tokyo headquarters. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT 1 Oct 79 OW]

CSO: 5500

AUSTRALIA

TELECOM AUSTRALIA TURNING TO SOLAR POWER

Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0710 GMT 24 Sep 79 OW

[From "Focus on Australia" program]

[Text] Australia's telecommunications commission is turning to solar energy to power remote telephone exchanges, microwave links and repeater stations in the Australian outback. From Brisbane, Christopher Beck reports:

[Begin recording] Australia leads the world in solar-powered telecommunications, and in November this new use for solar power will take a major leap forward. Then the telecommunications commission--better known as Telecom--will put into operation the world's longest system of solar-powered microwave links. It will stretch north from Alice Springs in the center of Australia 580 kilometers to Tennant Creek.

The multimillion dollar system emphasizes just how important solar power is becoming to Australia's telecommunications network. It is already being used on a smaller scale in several remote towns in Western Australia. In Queensland it is powering a telephone system on 13 Torres Strait islands and energizing several remote telephone exchanges. Work is also under way on a \$2 million telecommunications system which will include seven solar-powered repeater stations on the Cape York peninsula.

In the past these Telecom installations would have been powered by battery sets charged by diesel engine-driven generators. But 3 years ago Telecom decided to investigate the economics and technical feasibility of using solar power. The results of that survey were conclusive. Solar power would be marginally cheaper; it would also be more efficient and more reliable.

And it was these conclusions that have led to the present solar power development program, but with the huge increase in solar power development program. However, with the huge increases in international oil prices in the last 18 months solar power stations are not significantly cheaper to operate, and Telecom officials believe that because the system has virtually no mechanical heart like a diesel motor and generator it will mean much less maintenance and will be easier and cheaper to maintain.

They remember with a shudder some of the emergency repairs that have had to be carried out in remote areas. On a number of occasions mechanics and technicians have had to be dropped by helicopter into [words indistinct] remote areas to service diesel-powered facilities which have broken down and have effectively cut the area off from the rest of Australia. [end recording]

CSO: 5500

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

TELECON-AUSTRALIA EXPANSION--Telecom-Australia will spend almost \$1,000 million this financial year on expanding the national telecommunications network. The chairman of Telecom, Mr (Summervail), said today the program would be barely enough to cope with the record demands for new telephone, telex, data and other services. He said demand for telephones was rising by 10 percent a year and in 1979-80 the number of new telephones would pass the 500,000 mark for the first time. Mr (Summervail) said Telecom expected to connect new services at the rate of about 2,000 each working day. [Excerpt] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1130 GMT 20 Sep 79 OW]

CSO: 5500

LASER-GLASS DISK DATA RECORDER REPRODUCER DEVELOPED

Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 12 Sep 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo 12 Sep KYODO--A document and image information recorder-reproducer using laser beams and glass discs and proving far more efficient than the conventional magnetic disc or microfilm device of the kind has been developed by Toshiba Corp., it was announced here Wednesday by the leading Japanese electric-electronic equipment maker.

According to the announcement unique new device works by shooting laser beams carrying whatever information obtained through its reading section onto a round special glass disc to produce countless small memory holes and then picking up whatever information thus implanted.

Each glass disc, measuring 35 centimeters (13.7 inches) across, or a little larger than a standard LP record disc, can pack enough information to fill up 10,000 pages of a normal Japanese book of 210 by 207 millimeters (8.2 by 11.6 inches) in size.

That means the new recorder-reproducer is 100 times as capable of memory as a magnetic disc of equivalent standard size.

Besides, it can start sorting and reproducing its memorized information in just 7.5 seconds after switching on, which also means a pickup speed 10 times the microfilm counterpart. On top of this, the new product is very easy to operate.

The corporation has started seeking 180 domestic and foreign patents on its method of producing the new device, which chiefly consists of 1) a laser-type scanner (information reader that converts information into electric signals), 2) a disc memory creator-retriever that perforates memory holes up to only 1 millimicrons in depth, 3) a laser-type printer to feed out the picked-up information, and 4) a microcomputerized input, output and general control system.

Commercialization of the new product, after possible adaptation to prospective customers' requirements, is scheduled by the middle of next year. The whole device will be priced at around yen 8 million, while each disc about yen 5,000.

CSO: 5500

JAPAN

OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM TESTED BY JAPANESE COMPANY

Tokyo KYODO in English 0344 GMT 6 Sep 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 6 Sep KYODO--Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation has succeeded in testing a long-distance non-relay optical communication system which can transmit enormous information through minutely thin optical fiber cable.

The corporation's Musashino telecommunication laboratory said Thursday the optical communication test succeeded over a distance of 30 kilometers with transmission capacity of 800 megabits per second, equivalent to 10,000 telephone circuits, for the first time in the world.

Last March, the corporation succeeded in a similar test over a distance of 53 kilometers with transmission capacity of 100 megabits per second.

The corporation said the success has proven the feasibility of the optical communication system able to transmit the information of a 30-volume encyclopedia in only a tenth of a second.

The optical communication system is suited for community antenna television (CATV), picture communication and data communication.

The success was attributed to a newly developed 1.3-microwavelength "indium-gallium-arsenic-phosphorus" laser diode as a light emitter capable of consecutive oscillation under normal temperatures and a newly developed optical fiber cable with less transmission loss.

The corporation plans to put the optical communication system into practical use while enhancing the transmission capacity of the system.

CSO: 5500

BROADCASTING, TELEVISION DEVELOPS IN ZHEJIANG PROVINCE

Hangzhou Zhejiang Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 21 Sep 79 OW

[Excerpts] In the last 30 years since the founding of the PRC, broadcasting and television undertakings have developed vigorously in our province. Wired and wireless broadcasting loudspeakers have now been installed in both cities and rural villages. At present, the province has more than 5.5 million loudspeakers, 1 million radio sets and 50,000 television sets.

Early in the 1950's, our province began to build a wire-broadcasting network. After more than 30 years' efforts, a network with broadcasting wires totaling 300,000 KMC has been erected. As a result, 99 percent of the production teams in the province have been able to listen to the broadcast of programs. As of now, loudspeakers have been installed for 70 percent of the peasant families in the province.

While vigorously building a wire-broadcasting network, the province has also made progress in wireless broadcasting. It now have four broadcasting stations and 30 relay stations. Thus, the province's radio transmission capabilities have increased more than 2,000 times as compared with the pre-liberation period. As a result, the central and provincial people's broadcasting stations can be heard in the overwhelming majority of areas in the province.

Our province built a television station in 1960. A 7.5-kilowatt television transmitter with four frequency channels, a 10-kilowatt color television transmitter with six frequency channels and 75 meter-high television tower have been successively built and completed, thus greatly extending the range of television transmission.

At the same time, television relay stations have been built in 45 counties and municipalities in Ningbo, Jinhua, Zhoushan, (?Taizhou) and Jiaxing prefectures. Thus more people in cities and rural villages can now watch television.

CSO: 5500

THAILAND

BRIEFS

RADIO INTERFERENCE IN NORTHEAST--Khon Kaen--Broadcasting of Radio Thailand in the Northeast is badly disturbed by Lao radios' broadcastings because the Thai and Lao radios have similar frequencies, Radio Thailand's Northeastern Static Manager, Samrit Wichankit, recently reported to the public relations department. The station manager made a report to the public relations department requesting for the change of frequency of Radio Thailand's Northeastern station to avoid the disturbance by the Lao radios. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 13 Sep 79 p 3 BK]

CSO: 5500

SERBIAN SAWP COUNCIL DISCUSSES BULGARIAN-LANGUAGE BROADCASTING

Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2055 GMT 26 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade--The development of the system of information in the languages of the nationalities is an essential element of the attainment of the equality of the nations and nationalities in our socialist self-managing community. Proceeding from this conclusion--the council for intranational relations of the republican conference of the Serbian SAWP noted, while discussing the sound and vision reception of radio and television programs in Bulgarian--that progress has been made in this field in recent years, though the general view adopted is that some questions could be resolved more speedily and effectively. This particularly applies to the(?development) of the network of radio and television transmitters and relay stations which would improve what is at the moment very poor sound and vision reception in parts of the municipalities populated by members of the Bulgarian nationality.

This conclusion is supported by the numerous comments about reception quality justifiably made at meetings in local and municipal SAWP organizations in these areas. Consequently it was decided today that it is indispensable to adopt as speedily as possible a program for developing this network with precisely specified completion dates and details of those responsible for the work arising from specific tasks. It was also pointed out that since this is a matter of heavy investments the broader society's assistance to the municipalities concerned--these are mainly underdeveloped municipalities--should not fail to materialize.

All this, combined with the further improvement in programs [words indistinct] and a further extension in the duration of transmissions in the Bulgarian language, should make it possible to keep the population of Bulgarian nationality in Yugoslavia even better informed.

At its session today the council also considered a draft research program of the institute for the study of cultural development with regard to the cultural life of the nationality and ethnic group of the ROMS in the Socialist Republic of Serbia excluding the provinces.

Accepting and supporting the idea of this kind of research, the council also voiced a number of observations. The study which would be prepared on the basis of this research should help to create a medium-term plan for the cultural development of the nationality and ethnic group of the ROMS in the Socialist Republic of Serbia excluding the provinces for the period up to 1985. The concept, in the form in which it was presented to the council for intranational relations of the republican conference of Serbian SAWP, was incomplete in many of its aspects. It is consequently necessary, it was noted, for the council, being directly responsible for this work, to supplement and broaden the draft project. Members of the nationality and the ethnic groups of the ROMS should also take part in this. It was stressed that the part of the research which concerns the cultural life of the Albanians in the Socialist Republic of Serbia excluding the provinces should be carried out with the appropriate cooperation of institutions from the socialist autonomous Province of Kosovo.

CSO: 5500

HUNGARIAN RADIO PLANS EXPANSION OF MINORITY-LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

Budapest MTI in English 1824 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Budapest, 28 Sep (MTI)—Hungarian Radio's broadcasts for and about the non-Hungarian nationalities of this country take up an aggregate total of 650 minutes a week. The radio intends to further expand the range of broadcasts, as indicated by the setting up six months ago of a regional and nationality programmes head department, editor-in-chief Laszlo Paszior told MTI.

Broadcasts give coverage to day-to-day events of the nationalities, and teaching of their native tongues, as well as reviews of the books published in such languages. The national traditions are often featured in the programmes.

The Pecs regional studio started the first nationality broadcasts over 15 years ago--programmes in Serbo-Croatian. Today the weekly 240-minute programmes have about 40,000 listeners. Pecs's German-language broadcasts, designed for the German-speaking population of Baranya, Tola and Somogy counties, take up 300 minutes a week. The Gyor regional and nationality programmes department broadcasts in German for 10 minutes weekly, and in Slovenian for 15 minutes. The Miskolc department plans to add to its present 30-minutes-a-week Slovak-language broadcasts "special regional broadcasts for the nationalities" to be aired on the ultra shortwave channel from January 1, 1980.

Programme 3 of Hungarian Radio has for the past year been broadcasting Slovak, Serbo-Croatian and German-language programmes each Saturday and Sunday morning. Broadcasts for the non-Hungarian nationalities now cover the whole territory of Hungary.

CSO: 5500

HUNGARY

BRIEFS

TELEVISION RELAY STATION--The television relay station at Szentes was commissioned today. It will provide reception of Budapest's second TV channel within a radius of about 60 kilometers, and is the fifth of the 19 relay stations planned for full, country-wide reception of Channel 11. A further five are to be built in the next 5-year plan. [Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 21 Sep 79 LD]

CSO: 5500

POLAND

BRIEFS

PRZEMYSL TV IMPROVED--A powerful television transmitter has been commissioned in Przemysl. The new transmitter for the second program is on 10 kilowatts and has replaced the 10-watt transmitter used up to now. Thanks to this transmitter all inhabitants of Przemyśl Voivodship will be able to watch the second programs. [Summary] [Warsaw Domestic Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT Sep 79 LD]

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

BELGRADE MEETING OFFICIAL COMMENTS--Beirut, 27 Sep, Jamahiriya New Agency--The fourth meeting of the coordinating committee of news agencies of non-aligned countries starts in Belgrade on 29 October. The general-director of Arab News Agencies, Dr Farid Aya said, "The second general conference will follow the meeting of the committee and is expected to last until 3 November." On the other hand, Dr Ayar pointed out that the Arab News Agencies would hold a side meeting during the conference of Islamic news agencies to be held in Istanbul on 20 October to discuss issues to be presented to Baghdad's [as received] conference. He said: "The most prominent issues to be discussed are the prevention of Zionist propaganda from penetrating the gathering of non-aligned countries and how to deal with any news agency which might handle Zionist propaganda." [Text] [Tripoli JANA in English 1753 GMT 27 Sep 79 LD]

TELECOM DELEGATION TO DAMASCUS--Baghdad, 31 Aug--The Iraqi delegation to the Arab telecommunications administrative meeting, which opens tomorrow, left for Damascus today. The meeting will consider the future of the mass communication media's general frequencies and of those frequencies pertaining to maritime communication services. The meeting is aimed at adopting a unified Arab stand that secures a just distribution of these frequencies according to actual need. It is also planned to draft a just distribution of these frequencies between the developed and developing countries. Eng 'Abd al-Sattar Qarman, chairman of the Arab Telecommunications Union, also left for Damascus today at the head of a union delegation to participate in the meeting. [Text] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Aug 79 JN]

SAUDI-OMAN RADIO-TV COOPERATION--Jidda--Dr Muhammad 'Abdih Yamani, the minister of information says that it has been agreed between the Kingdom and the Sultanate of Oman to increase the exchange and broadcast of television and radio programs, documentary films and educational items. In a statement today the minister says that he has discussed with 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawas, the Omani information minister, coordination in the field of information on the Gulf and Arab levels. Discussion dealt with Arab information in general and Saudi-Omani joint action. Dr Yamani expressed satisfaction and pleasure at the positive, fruitful results of his meeting with the Omani minister. [Text] [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1005 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD]

ARAB SATELLITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS--London, 18 Sep TASS--The Arab Organisation of Satellite Telecommunications (ARABSAT) has completed drafting of a satellite communications system to ensure work of 12,000 telephone and 8 television channels, the organisation's director Ali Mashshat told the news agency of Saudi Arabia. Foreign companies and ARABSAT member-states are taking part in the implementation of the project, to be completed in two and a half years. According to the project, Ali Mashshat said, the satellite flight control center will be located in Saudi Arabia and receiving centers--in all the ARABSAT member states. The Arab Organisation of Satellite Telecommunications was founded in 1976. Its task is creation of space telecommunications to improve telephone, telegraph and telex communications both inside the Arab countries and between various parts of the Arab world. Space communications will also ensure radio and television programs exchange between the Arab states. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1028 GMT 18 Sep 79 LD]

CSO: 5500

MOROCCAN MINISTER OF INFORMATION VISITS 'MAP' HEADQUARTERS

Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 10 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, 10 Sep MAP--Abdelwahid Belakziz, Moroccan minister of information, held a working meeting last Saturday at MAP headquarters with the management of the new agency in order to look into various questions connected with the running of the agency and its prospects for the future. The director of MAP, Abdeljalil Fenjiro, began by giving a historical account of the agency which passed from being a private concern to a public body in 1974. The meeting lasted about 2 hours and Mr Fenjiro dwelt on the difficulties which the agency is encountering on various fronts. Mr Abdelwahid Belakziz asked for details on the capabilities of MAP in disseminating national news both at home and abroad. He also examined the administrative position of the staff of the agency and he advised that there should be a speeding-up of the establishment of MAP personnel. The minister of information also had talks with the management of MAP about ways to increase income for the agency and the possibility of getting subscriptions from the public and private sector at central and regional level. He also discussed the modernization of the technical equipment for transmission and reception, so as to enable the agency to fulfill its constantly growing tasks more efficiently.

It must also be noted that during the meeting an exhaustive examination was made of the agency's future prospects, as well as of a plan of action, both internal and external. In this connection it must be recalled that last May MAP opened a bureau in Washington and is about to open two further ones, in Dakar and in London.

An examination is also being made about opening up a bureau in the capital of an Arab country as well as insuring 24-hour service for all Moroccan embassies abroad. At the end of the meeting the minister visited the various departments of the agency, especially the listening service, the editorial and technical departments.

CSO: 5500

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

REHABILITATION OF UGANDA'S TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNDERWAY

Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD/EA

[Text] The Uganda Posts and Telecommunications Corporation is to receive about \$4 million from the UN development program, and the International Telecommunications Union for the restoration and rehabilitation of telecommunications services, both internal and external. The implementation of the project has started and is expected to be completed by the end of May 1980.

Projects covered include restoring the high-capacity telecommunications link between Kampala and the towns of Masaka and Mbarara with sufficient capacity to cater for communications beyond these towns, which will pass to Kigali in Rwanda, Bujumbura in Burundi, Bukoba in Tanzania, and Goma in Zaire by means of a 950-channel microwave network.

The aid will also cover Kampala-Entebbe; Kampala-Mityana; Kampala-Mubende-Fort Portal; Kampala-Masindi-Gulu; Tororo; Mbale; Soroti; Lira; Gulu; Gulu-Arua; Gulu-Moyo; and Soroti-Kapchorwa-Moroto.

In addition, the aid is meant to restore radio-call services between Kampala and remote stations all over the country.

The aid will also cater for the conversion of Kololo domestic satellite earth station into a standard "D" international station.

The aid will also enable the corporation to make facilities available for television and radio broadcasting services.

CSO: 5500

ETHIOPIA

BRIEFS

RADIO TERMINAL IN ETHIOPIA—Addis Ababa, 10 Sep—Ethiopia Sunday inaugurated a Japanese-built ground radio terminal for communications satellites in suburban Addis Ababa. The yen 1.4 billion terminal, built by Nippon Electric Co and Mitsubishi Electric Corp can connect a telephone call from or to Tokyo within a few minutes through the communications satellite stationed over the Atlantic ocean, it was reported. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given Sep 79 OW]

CSO: 5500

KENYA

BRIEFS

KENYA GENEVA RADIO CONFERENCE DELEGATE--The Managing Director of Kenya Posts and Telecommunication, Mr Ngeny, leaves as the deputy leader of a government delegation to the World Administrative Council to be held in Geneva. The conference starts tomorrow. The conference, which will end on 30 November, has a heavy program schedule. The conference will discuss and decide on ordinary allocation of radio frequency spectrum. It will also determine appropriate radio regulations to be honored internationally. This is to insure that the radio frequencies allocated at the conference are used within and among the radio frequency regions of the world. Mr Ngeny is accompanied by his deputy, Mr Philip Okundi. An advance Kenyan delegation comprising several engineers is already in Geneva for the conference. [Text] [Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 19 Sep 79 LD/EA]

CSO: 5500

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY REORGANIZATION--The Ministry of Communications is to be reorganized. Under the exercise, the ministry is to be divided into three divisions. These are the Nigerian External Telecommunications, NET; the Nigerian Postal services, NPS; and the Nigerian Internal Telecommunications Authority, NITA. The commissioner for communications, Mr Oheru Aribiah, said in Lagos that each of the divisions would be autonomous and with a board of directors. Mr Aribiah said that both the external communications, NET and the Nigerian External Telecommunications would be commercialized. [sentence as heard] The commissioner pointed out that a committee would be established to facilitate the exercise. [Text] [Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD]

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

TELEVISION TOWER STARTED--Makhachkala--The construction of a television tower has been started on one of the summits of the Gimrinskiy range in Dagestan. The height of the summit is 2,330 meters and the tower is 180 meters high--a total of 2,510 meters. When this tower is commissioned television waves will cease to be "broken off" by the high ranges and by next year the "little blue lights" of television screens in the remotest auls in Dagestan will be illuminated. [Text] [Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 38 signed to press 20 Sep 79 p 7 LD]

ARMENIAN TV RELAY CONSTRUCTION--Assembly of a powerful television relay station has started in the mountains of Armenia, at an altitude of 2,500 metres. The relay station will make it possible to receive programs from Moscow and by television of Armenia. [sentence as heard] At the moment, there is a potential television audience of 210 million people in the whole of the Soviet Union. The broadcasts are insured by 80 ground stations receiving them via outer space and by about 2,500 relay stations. [Text] [Moscow Radio in English to North America 0300 GMT 23 Sep 79 LD]

KURGAN OBLAST TV--A new TV relay station has appeared in the Kurgan Oblast. It was financed by local collective and state farms. The station will bring programs to the remotest localities of the Trans-Urals virgin lands region and will enable local countryfolk to receive for the first time color programs of the Central TV Network. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 9 Sep 79 LD]

DAGESTAN TV TOWER CONSTRUCTION--Makhachkala--The construction of a television tower has been started on one of the summits of the Gimrinskiy range in Dagestan. The height of the summit is 2,330 meters and the tower is 180 meters high--a total of 2,510 meters. When this tower is commissioned television waves will cease to be "broken off" by the high ranges and by next year the "little blue lights" of television screens in the remotest parts in Dagestan will be illuminated. [Text] [Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 38, 1979 signed to press 20 Sep 79 p 7 LD]

HAGGLE OVER FREQUENCIES EXPECTED AT GENEVA WARC ROUND

Munich SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 24 Sep 79 p 4 DW

[Article by Karl-Otto Saur: "The Claims in the Ether Clash Harshly"]

[Text] When the federal constitutional court caused the demise of Adensaur's German television in 1961, one of the essential reasons for the verdict was the limited number of radio frequencies which did not allow a free operation of radio and television where both would have equal chances. Today the adversaries of the radio system under public law, of the "monopoly system" as they like to call it, hope for a new verdict from Karlsruhe which is to clear the road toward generally accessible private broadcasting in view of the opportunities offered by satellite broadcasting and closed-circuit television. If we listen to the advocates of a new variety for the electronic media it almost seems as though we have allowed ourselves to be followed for decades by physical laws which turn out post facto to be practically unimportant.

Yet this is not the case. This Monday the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC 79) of the International Telecommunications Union, a special organization of the United Nations, will be opening in Geneva. After a period of 20 years this conference is to try to create a new "frequency order" to be valid in all frequency ranges up to the end of the century. If the closed circuit technology were as far advanced internationally as some media politicians in the federal republic believe, it would surely be easy to distribute the available frequencies without any trouble for the required cable-tied services--such as in sea navigation, in the emergency calling range, or similar services. The broadcasting of radio programs through the ether, however, continues to be irreplaceable by anything, and in Geneva the delegations of 147 countries will fight for their shares for 10 weeks. What is at stake there is political as well as commercial matter, prestige as well as power claims.

The present conference was preceded by several international conferences at which partial solutions were anticipated for certain continents and frequency ranges. In 1975 the countries of Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania came to terms on a new medium-wave plan, and in 1977 the positions and broadcasting ranges for possible radio satellites were fixed. But even the result of this last conference is being called into question again. The satellites that need to be "posted" above the equator for technical reasons

presumably can begin carrying out their mission in 1983 and broadcast programs on a nationwide level. The equatorial countries do not want to allow this, however, unless they are granted a say in the use of their air space (at an altitude of 36,000 kilometers).

This demand also touches the main problem of the conference. While 20 years ago the industrial countries were practically alone and able to distribute among themselves the wave ranges on the basis of "first come, first served," in some sort of grasping action, now the countries of the Third World have a majority. There is no country among them any more that does not have a radio station; more and more countries are setting up national television programs. These countries now demand frequencies that are often already occupied, particularly in the shortwave range, which will be the subject of hard struggling in Geneva. The representatives of the United States have already protested against these claims. The Americans do not want to give up any of the frequencies used by them publicly or privately up to now, and in this connection cite the oft-quoted "free flow of information," which is the principle of the free flow of uncensored information.

If the industrial countries really take this principle seriously, they will have to meet the countries of the free world halfway. Since the industrial countries at the UNESCO meeting on a new world information order in Nairobi in 1977 and in Paris in 1978 rejected all efforts to set up a state-controlled information policy after the pattern of many countries of the Third World, they must now recognize the right and support the intention of these countries to inform the people of their own country through their own radio stations. No means of information is better suited for circulating information in these often thinly populated and large states with a high number of illiterates than the radio. If one really wants to give these countries an opportunity to develop their own forms of living together in states, they must be given the technical prerequisites and not merely where commercial interests are already playing a part today.

This will have far-reaching consequences in Geneva. If one recognizes the principle that every country will be given so many and such good frequencies that it will be supplied "with a voice," one will have to reconsider the function of present foreign services and not merely for technical reasons. Regardless of whether it is colonial tradition, the will for democratization, the Voice of America, the BBC Foreign Service or Deutsche Welle--it will become more difficult to beam broadcasts to countries against the will of the local governments there. It is another matter though whether limiting the freedom of broadcasting in such a way would serve the interests of a populace in a country ruled by dictatorship.

CSO: 5500

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

BRIEFS

DPA ANNOUNCES MODERNIZED SERVICES--Hamburg--Commencing this Saturday DPA will transmit its service to customers in the Federal Republic by computer-controlled means, according to the most modern technical methods and at more than double the speed (20 characters per second). DPA customers in the Federal Republic will, commencing this Saturday, receive the regional service edited in the individual lander, and the basisdienst transregional reports via a joint teleprinter network. Interested customers can also obtain the basisdienst via radio. [Excerpts] [Hamburg DPA in German 1100 GMT 31 Aug 79 LD]

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